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New Data on Parasites of the Genera *Kudoa* and *Unicapsula* (Myxosporea: Multivalvulida) in Marine Fish of Nha Trang Bay, Vietnam

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The fauna of marine myxosporeans in the East Sea is extremely poorly studied. Prior to our studies, according to the literature data, 8 identified to a species level (3 of them belong to the *Kudoa* genus) and 9 unidentified representatives of this group of parasites were found off the coast of Vietnam, and 9 completely different species were found in Chinese waters (7 of them are representatives of the *Kudoa* genus).

The first results of our research on fish myxosporeans in Nha Trang Bay, Vietnam, showed the richness of the fauna of these parasites in this region. During three month trips in 2018–2019, we found 32 representatives of Myxosporea (10 *Kudoa* spp. and 1 *Unicapsula* sp.), 9 of which were identified to species.

Among the identified species of myxosporeans belonging to the order Multivalvulida, in the mullets we found *Kudoa dicentrarchi* Sitja-Bobadilla et Alvarez-Pellitero, 1992 in gall bladder of *Planiliza* cf. *melinopterus*, *Osteomugil cunnesius*, *O. perusii*, *Mugil* cf. *cephalus*, and two new species of this genus in gall bladder and muscles of two species of fish. We also found 4 species of muscles parasites: *Kudoa thyrsites* (Gilchrist, 1924) from Russell's mackerel scad *Decapterus russeli*; *Kudoa whippsi* Burger et Adlard, 2010 from Indo-Pacific sergeant *Abudefduf vaigiensis*; *Kudoa monodactyli* Gunter, Cribb, Whipps et Adlard, 2006 from Silver moony *Monodactylus argenteus*; and *Unicapsula pyramidata* Naidenova et Zaika, 1970 from Japanese threadfin bream *Nemipterus japonicus*.

The species identification of the above myxosporeans was carried out on the basis of morphological and molecular genetic methods.

Prevalence was 36 % for *K. thyrsites* and 10 % for *U. pyramidata*. *K. whippsi* was found in 1 of 5 fish, *Kudoa monodactyli* – in 2 of 5 fish. *K. dicentrarchi* was found in 5 % *Planiliza* cf. *melinopterus*, in 12 % *Osteomugil cunnesius*, in 20 % *Osteomugil perusii*, and in 56 % *Mugil* cf. *cephalus*.

This is the first report of *K. thyrsites*, *K. whippsi*, and *K. dicentrarchi* from the East Sea and Vietnam.

The new host records are *Decapterus russeli* for *K. thyrsites*, *Abudefduf vaigiensis* for *K. whippsi*, *Planiliza* cf. *melinopterus*, *Osteomugil cunnesius*, *O. perusii* for *K. dicentrarchi.*

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